

COUNCIL MEETING
April 11, 2011

Present: Mayor Horn, Vice Mayor Dias, Secretary Stover, Treasurer Lightcap, Asst. Treasurer Letterman, Sergeant Hutson, Recording Secretary Melissa Knight, Town Foreman Jeff Hurlock, Town Solicitor Kathryn Garrison, Carol Cooper, Glenn Bowen, Al Hill, Harvey Scott, John Pridemore, Skip Carrow, Nick Sawyer and Cleve Donovan.

Mayor Horn called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Recording Secretary Melissa Knight.

A motion was made by Asst. Treasurer Letterman to approve the previous minutes in written form of March 14, 2011, 2nd by Vice Mayor Dias.

A motion was made by Secretary Stover to approve the Treasurer's Report in written form, 2nd by Vice Mayor Dias.

Communications: Kent County Municipal Planning Meeting April 21, 2011 at 1 p.m. at the Camden Council Chambers.

Chief of Police: No Report

Town Foreman: No Report. Recycling did start April 8th with every other Friday pick-up. If anyone in the community did not receive a recycle container, they are asked to contact the town hall and one will be delivered. Information regarding recycle was sent in the April bill.

Town Solicitor: No Report

Inspections & Enforcement: No Report

Electric: No Report

Streets: Street work on Smyrna Avenue is complete. Wilson Street - the new drainage pipe is coming along. It should be complete in a couple of weeks.

Water & Sewer: No Report. New pump station moving slowly due to the contractor.

Equipment: No Report. Waiting to finalizing the sale of the old street sweeper.

Personnel: No Report

Police: No Report

Budget: Looking good.

DEMEC: No meeting. A few months ago a representative spoke about #2 unit being ordered for the power plant big shaving unit. The purchase of this unit is around \$14 million.

Board of Adjustments: No Report

Planning & Zoning: A letter regarding the planning and zoning vote on the preliminary plans for ovals.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Janitorial Service – Simply Clean monthly quote of \$240.00. The cost of this service is offset by personnel change. A motion was made by Asst. Treasurer Letterman to accept the janitorial service to clean the Town Hall, 2nd by Treasurer Lightcap. Unanimous vote.

Snow Removal Ordinance – 2nd reading. The police and town foreman will decide which streets will be marked snow emergency routes. A public hearing will be scheduled to inform the public which streets will be snow emergency routes. Amendment may be needed to the ordinance to state non-emergency routes. Vehicles will need to be moved 24 to 48 hours after snow fall so that the town crew can clean streets.

A motion was made by Treasurer Lightcap to accept the Snow Removal ordinance, 2nd by Vice Mayor Dias. Unanimous vote.

Tester for Electrical Meter – This item was not included in the budget, but the town has the funds in the Electric Capital Reserve to purchase this piece of equipment in the amount of \$4,485.00. With purchasing this equipment, it will assist the town crew to test the meters on-site instead of removing the meter and sending it away to be tested. At this time we rely on Smyrna and Middletown to test our meters.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Dias to accept the purchase of the electrical meter tester, 2nd by Treasurer Lightcap. Unanimous vote.

New Business:

Term Loan – Clayton Fire Co. – No financial cost to the Town of Clayton. The Clayton Fire Co. is a non-profit organization. The loan is for renovation to the firehouse and purchase of fire equipment. This agreement is also showing that the Town of Clayton will not have any other fire company to come in to service the Town of Clayton. This allows the fire company to receive a cheaper rate on the loan with the agreement. (see attached document)

A motion was made by Asst. Treasurer Letterman to accept the Term Loan Resolution for the Clayton Fire Co., 2nd by Vice Mayor Dias. Unanimous vote.

GASB45 - Glenn Bowen from Milliman spoke in regards to GASB45. (see attached documents) The budget panel will schedule a meeting with Milliman to present more detailed information to the council regarding this service.

Election - Mayor Horn spoke regarding the election this month. The town council had three (3) open seats available and only three (3) people filed that are already on the council. There will be no election this year. The following people will remain on the council: Mayor Horn, Vice Mayor Dias and Treasurer Lightcap. A re-organization may occur at a later date.

Public Forum:

Mr. Quinn Johnson – The State's budget committee met. A budget surplus this year of \$77 million then revenue up \$77 million. Still some challenges to deal with. The state governor has a proposal of \$100 million dollar in cuts. The joint finance committee is working on. The state has also looked at the pension plan. The governor has set out a goal projecting a \$100 million saving goal. Plan project to save \$125 million on the next 5 year's pension. It will only affect the new hires. There will be a couple of increases on current state employees. The healthcare is projected to increase over the years so this is a continuing budget issue. Budget issue of the transportation trust fund consists of gas tax and tolls. This is federal funded money used to repave roads, etc. The funds were transferred into the general fund, and the money has been used for other expense instead of what the funds are used for. Also the issue of increasing the gas tax and fees. Right now there are 2 things that are concerning: 1st gas price increase and adding taxes on top of that; and 2nd the DelDot funding of the money with no Secretary. Addressed the reoccurring pot hole on Dickerson Street and will address this issue again to see what other measures can be done to prevent this pot hole from reappearing. Changing tolls and adding addition tolls. These tolls will be located in the Kent County area and not in Sussex County.

Lincoln Willis – The pension and health care insurance the average increase for state employees is \$8.00 to \$12.00 for health care. If the gas tax increases, it will be more then the health care increase. If you have any question please feel free to call me at 659-2436.

Executive Session/Personnel-Legal:

Adjournment:

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m. by Vice Mayor Dias, 2nd by Asst. Treasurer Letterman. Unanimous vote.

Recording Secretary,

Melissa Knight